



United States Department  
of Agriculture

National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 609, Olympia, WA 98507  
(360) 902-1940 Fax (360) 902-2091

# Washington Crop Weather

Released: November 12, 2002, 1:00 p.m.  
Week Ending: November 10, 2002  
CWP Vol 02 No 35 WA-CW4502

## Record Cold Temperatures Cause Damage in West Conditions Maintained but Rain in Short Supply in East

### Field Crops

In western Washington, record cold temperatures may have damaged fall seedings of small grains and new grass seedings. In eastern Washington, precipitation maintained winter wheat and subsoil moisture conditions, though it remained in short supply. Winter wheat was in mostly fair condition until frost damage or potential frost damage can be assessed. Fall tillage work was also wrapping up in Whitman County.

### Livestock

Livestock operations continued to provide supplemental feed due to the poor fall grazing conditions in eastern Washington. In the west, fall pasture growth has been limited by lack of rainfall.

### Fruits and Vegetables

Benton County growers assessed cold damage to tree fruit and grapes. Some estimates put apple crop loss as high as fifteen percent. Most grapes have been harvested, with some wineries taking advantage of the cold temperatures to make ice wine. Processing carrot harvest continued in Grant County. Reports were still being received in Pierce and Southern King Counties regarding freezing temperatures including damage to Nappa cabbage and Daikon radishes.

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	5.1
Last Week	6.7

### Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	17	59	24	0
Subsoil	16	54	30	0
Irrigation Water	0	3	97	0
Hay & Roughage	0	15	85	0

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

### Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2001	5 Yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat Planted	100	99	100	100
Winter Wheat Emerged	93	91	97	97
Potatoes Harvested	99	98	100	100
Corn Harvested	50	42	49	59

### Crop Condition\*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Corn	0	3	9	88	0

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

\* Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

# COUNTY COMMENTS

## Western

**Grays Harbor/Lewis:** Fall pasture growth has been limited by lack of rainfall. Record cold temperatures may have damaged fall seedings of small grains and new grass seedings.

**Pierce/South King:** The rains, along with mild temperatures, returned, but it was too

late for pastures. The dry weather has taken its toll on pastures in the South Puget Sound area. Reports were still being received of damage from the freezing temperatures from the week of October 28 through November 1. The latest report of damage was to Nappa cabbage and Daikon radishes.

## Central

**Benton:** Growers assessed cold damage to tree fruit and grapes. Some estimates put apple crop loss as high as 15 percent. Most grapes have been harvested, with some wineries taking advantage of the cold temperatures to make ice wine. Conditions remained extremely dry.

**Grant:** Limited rainfall received was beneficial for dryland and irrigated winter wheat. Processing carrot harvest continued.

**Yakima:** Temperatures were mostly warmer, ranging from 6 degrees below normal to 6 degrees above normal, with .42 of an inch of precipitation received.

## Eastern

**Adams:** Precipitation was enough to maintain current winter wheat conditions and subsoil moisture and improve topsoil moisture levels, though more precipitation is needed. Winter wheat remained mostly in fair condition until the extent of frost damage or potential frost damage can be assessed.

**Asotin/Garfield:** Showers and warmer temperatures were both very welcome this past week. Moisture accumulations were disappointing compared to surrounding areas. More rain is still needed.

**Lincoln:** Precipitation maintained winter wheat and subsoil moisture conditions and improved topsoil moisture conditions, though it remained in short supply. Winter wheat was in mostly fair condition until frost damage or potential frost damage can be assessed.

**Stevens:** The week began cold and dry but ended with rain throughout the weekend. Temperatures rose to the 40's as the new

system passed through.

**Walla Walla:** There was some relief from the drought and freezing conditions. Temperatures increased slightly with the precipitation received during the week, though moisture remained below normal for the year.

**Whitman:** Rainfall was received late in the week, with accumulations varying from .8" to 1.0" across the county. The welcomed rain gave a much needed boost to winter wheat; however, additional fall moisture will be needed. Livestock operations continued to provide supplemental feed due to the poor fall grazing conditions.

**Whitman (2<sup>nd</sup> Report):** Winter wheat fields began getting a much needed soaking from passing storms, as November ushered in a change in weather patterns. Fall tillage work was wrapping up.

**Weekly Weather Statistics**  
**November 12, 2002**

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN		
<b>WEST</b>															
Bellingham Intl	24	60	49	4	9	2	0	0	0.43	-0.69	5	2.16	-4.75	31	21
Everett	33	61	49	4	6	-1	0	0	1.05	-0.02	6	2.44	-4.28	36	23
Hoquiam	31	57	50	1	7	-4	0	0	1.67	-0.55	6	4.28	-8.26	34	21
Kelso	27	57	47	0	1	-6	0	0	0.68	-0.73	5	1.96	-6.17	24	15
Olympia	22	58	47	4	2	1	0	0	1.22	-0.51	5	2.14	-6.83	24	19
Seattle-Tacoma	30	59	49	2	4	-3	0	0	1.57	0.31	5	2.48	-4.37	36	16
Shelton	22	58	46	1	0	-7	0	0	1.42	-0.78	5	2.10	-9.10	19	13
Tacoma	21	61	47	1	0	-7	0	0	0.37	-0.92	3	1.53	-5.47	22	16
Vancouver	28	58	47	1	0	-7	0	0	0.79	-0.44	5	2.39	-4.48	35	14
<b>CENTRAL</b>															
Ellensburg	12	54	38	-2	0	0	0	0	0.41	0.17	4	0.61	-0.77	44	8
Omak	12	50	37	-1	0	0	0	0	0.59	0.26	2	0.74	-1.40	35	7
Stampede Pass	27	46	36	5	0	0	0	0	0.60	-1.99	3	2.55	-10.95	19	17
Wenatchee	20	52	41	-1	0	-6	0	0	0.51	0.29	2	0.90	-0.26	78	8
Yakima AP	18	57	40	-2	0	-7	0	0	0.42	0.21	2	0.52	-0.63	45	4
<b>NORTHEAST</b>															
Colville	12	47	36	-2	0	0	0	0	0.90	0.36	2	1.42	-1.70	46	7
Deer Park	8	52	35	-3	0	0	0	0	1.55	1.02	4	2.25	-0.45	83	15
Spokane AP	11	58	38	1	0	0	0	0	1.07	0.62	2	1.85	-0.48	79	11
<b>EAST CENTRAL</b>															
Ephrata	15	54	40	-2	0	-7	0	0	0.18	-0.03	1	0.32	-0.76	30	4
Moses Lake	12	56	39	-3	0	-7	0	0	0.20	-0.01	1	0.35	-0.73	32	4
Quincy	17	54	39	-2	0	-2	0	0	0.26	0.04	2	0.38	-0.84	31	5
Ritzville	16	59	40	0	0	0	0	0	0.59	0.26	3	0.91	-0.90	50	8
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>															
Hanford	15	56	42	-5	0	-10	0	0	0.20	-0.01	2	0.41	-0.61	40	5
Pasco	14	61	43	-3	9	2	0	0	0.19	-0.02	3	0.31	-0.88	26	6
Pullman	17	61	43	4	3	-4	0	0	0.50	-0.07	4	1.65	-1.55	52	13
Whitman Mission	11	66	39	-5	0	-7	0	0	0.37	-0.03	3	0.91	-1.35	40	11
<b>IDAHO PANHANDLE</b>															
Coeur D'A' AP	16	55	38	-4	0	-6	0	0	1.12	0.43	3	2.31	-1.44	62	9
Lewiston ID	27	63	46	2	9	2	0	0	0.27	0.01	2	1.44	-0.59	71	14

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2002

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Copyright 2002: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.